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Moving Forward: Rockville's 2017 Year in Review

Rockville had a busy 2017, with a new city manager, talks on diversity, a perfect score for LGBTQ support and so much more. Here, we run down a few of the major events that made the pages of "Rockville Reports" this year.

In **January**, Rob DiSpirito joined the City of Rockville as its new city manager. DiSpirito, who has more than three decades of local government leadership experience, served as the city manager of Dunedin, Florida, for nearly 10 years. He previously served as city manager of Oberlin, Ohio, for 11 years.



In **February**, the Mayor and Council hosted a packed audience at the Rockville Senior Center for a town hall discussion on diversity, with more than 150 attendees split among seven "conversation circles," each addressing a different set of questions on topics that included hate crime, enhancing community policing, barriers to government, communicating with young people and promoting inclusion.

In **March**, 92 percent of Rockville residents who responded to the city's ninth biennial community survey once again described the city's overall quality of life as excellent or good. Eighty-six percent of respondents rated the city's overall quality of services as excellent or good.

In **April**, Rockville was ranked 13th in the nation on Livability.com's list of the Top 100 Best Places to Live. It was the fourth straight year Rockville placed in the top 20.

In **May**, the city won another accolade, being named a Playful City for the fourth time. This month, Rockville celebrated with the 29th annual Hometown Holidays Music Fest. "Rockville Reports" reported that overall crime statistics in the city had gone up 9.1 percent due to a



spike in auto thefts and Part II crimes, such as simple assault, loitering, disorderly conduct and driving under the influence. However, that was contrasted by a 35.5 percent decrease in crimes against people and property — so-called Part I crimes — between 2005 and 2016.

In **June**, the Mayor and Council unanimously adopted a resolution supporting the Paris climate accord, and reinforced the city's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing Rockville's resilience to climate change.

In **July**, Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton was elected Maryland Municipal League's (MML) president-elect. For the seventh year in a row, Rockville was named a Banner City by the MML, which recognizes elected and appointed municipal officials as the league's most engaged members.



In **August**, neighborhoods around the city and the Rockville City Police Department celebrated their communities at the 33rd annual National Night Out, and Welsh Park opened overnight for amateur astronomers to see the yearly celestial wonder of the Perseid meteor shower.

In **September**, Mayor Newton and City Manager DiSpirito took to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre stage for a state of the city conversation hosted by the Rockville Chamber of Commerce. Also, all things German were cel-

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Three Rockville 2040 Open House Meetings Slated for January

Three meetings in January will allow the public to give further feedback on draft policies and concepts of Rockville 2040, the plan that will shape the city's future.

Following the meetings, the draft plan will be submitted to a formal review process that involves the Planning Commission and Mayor and Council.

Rockville 2040 has been a wide-ranging initiative dedicated to updating the city's Comprehensive Master Plan, and has featured an intensive set of listening sessions and citywide forums, as well as community and stakeholder meetings. The Comprehensive Master Plan's goal is to preserve and improve the quality of life in Rockville by guiding development and conservation, and ensuring that the city can provide high-quality community facilities.

Three open house meetings will be held in January at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., to



present a series of ideas to the public:

- 7-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11.
- 7-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16.
- 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Jan. 20.

The same information will be discussed at each meeting, allowing attendees to come on the date that best suits their schedules. Rockville staff will be on hand to discuss key plan ideas and answer questions. The meetings will follow an open house format with maps, charts and displays illustrating topics and concepts.

Visit the Rockville 2040 web page at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040 to view presentations and sign up for email updates. For more information, email Ann Wallas at awallas@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8200. +

Help Name Rockville's Newest Park

Rockville needs a name for a new park planned for the former site of Chestnut Lodge — and we want your help!

Send your name suggestions to the City Clerk/Director of Council Operations at cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov or City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Office, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. The deadline for submission is Friday, Jan. 19.

Suggestions for the name of the future park at Chestnut Lodge will be reviewed by the

Recreation and Parks Advisory Board. The board then makes its recommendation to the Mayor and Council, which has the final decision-making authority.

The future park, which is made up of three parcels totaling 6.4 acres, is located at 500 W. Montgomery Ave. The Mayor and Council acquired the land earlier this year.

For more information on the naming and commemoration policy, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/namingpolicy. +



A CITY OF GOOD NEIGHBORS... Rockville recognized (L to R) Brian Shipley, Laurent Myers, Pat Reber and Joe Andrews with Good Neighbor Awards during the Nov. 13 Mayor and Council meeting. (Not pictured: Pat Casey and his dog, Sophie.) The awards recognize the efforts of Rockville community members to improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods. Learn more about this year's winners at RockvilleReports.com. Search "Good Neighbors."

Rockville Facilities to Close for the Holidays

City Hall and all city facilities will be closed Monday, Dec. 25 for Christmas Day and Monday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day.

Recycling and refuse will be collected one day later throughout those weeks. Find more information at www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse.

City Hall will also be closed 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, for an annual recognition event for city employees. Other city facilities will operate on the following schedule this month:

- Croydon Creek Nature Center will be open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 24 and 31. The center is closed Mondays.
- During the last two weeks of the month, the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be open only from 2-7 p.m. Dec. 19, 20, 26 and 27. The box office will resume regular hours Tuesday, Jan. 2. Tickets are always available at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre.
- Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers will be open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Dec. 24, 26 and 31, and closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

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MAYOR & COUNCIL
111 Maryland Ave.
Rockville, Maryland
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And the Kindness Challenge Award Goes to ...

Beall Elementary School students showed their compassionate sides in October, winning the City of Rockville's Kindness Challenge. The school won \$600 from the city and the Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation to support its students.

The challenge, sponsored by Rockville's Community Services Division, asked elementary schools to complete kind acts, such as doing a household chore without being asked, thanking a bus driver or teacher and saying something nice to five people.

Overall, 159 Beall students took part. Teacher Carolina DeVriendt's third-grade class won an ice cream party from the city by having 23 students participate — the most of any class in the school.

On Oct. 2, Rockville's Mayor and Council proclaimed October Bullying Prevention Month, joining a national campaign to address bullying behavior.

For more information on bullying and bullying prevention, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/bullyingprevention.



Hearing About Development Review

Andy Gunning, acting director of Community Planning and Development Services, runs through the agenda at a development review listening session, Wednesday, Nov. 15. The session was an opportunity for residents, developers and other stakeholders to talk to city staff about what does and doesn't work in the city's review process, and how the city can do better. What staff learned from the listening session will help improve the development review process by making it more efficient, timely and transparent. Based on the session's feedback, staff will work internally to identify potential changes, and in early 2018 will bring those suggestions in a follow-up session to the Mayor and Council, and community.



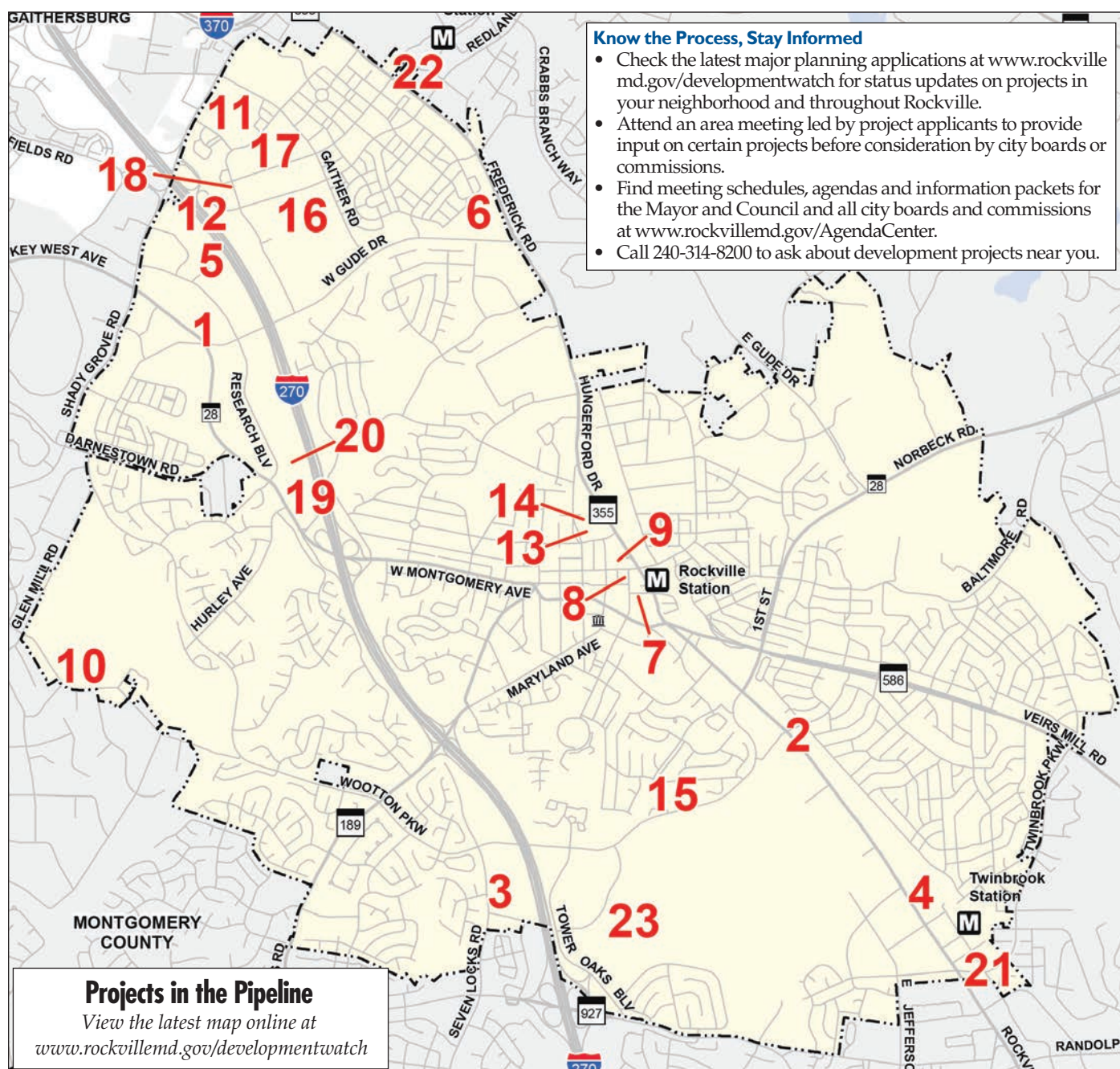
Help the Rockville City Police Department Take the Plunge

Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge
Friday, Jan. 26

Sandy Point State Park, Annapolis

www.plungemd.com

Search "RCPD" to Pledge in Support of Rockville's Plunge Team and Special Olympics Maryland



Major Development Review Applications

Recent Pre-Application Submittals

The following applications have been submitted for pre-application review:

1. **Northeast corner of West Montgomery Avenue and West Gude Drive (Falls Grove at West Montgomery):** Pre-application for a proposed mixed-use development consisting of 459 multi-family units and about 10,000 square feet of ground-floor retail on a vacant site. Case #PAM2017-00100.
2. **900 Rockville Pike:** Pre-application for a proposed 6,000-square-foot retail center with about 900 square feet of office use. Case #PAM2017-00105.
3. **1201 Seven Locks Road (Brightview):** Pre-application for a proposed 198-unit senior housing development. Case #PAM2017-00102.
4. **Twinbrook Metro Place (1500-1616 Rockville Pike):** Pre-application for the proposed redevelopment of approximately 18 acres into a mixed-use project consisting of residential, retail and office use. Case #PAM2018-00107.

Applications Under Review

The following applications are currently in the development review process:

5. **4 Research Place:** Level 1 site plan for an 88,000-square-foot self-storage facility. Case #PAM2015-00090.
6. **45 W. Gude Drive (Rockville Mews):** Level 2 site plan to allow for development of 83 townhome units. Case #STP2017-00298.
7. **50 Monroe Place:** Level 2 site plan to allow for development of a 70-unit multi-family project with approximately 1,400 square feet of retail space. Case #STP2018-00326.
8. **196 & 198 E. Montgomery Ave. (Duball Rockville):** Level 2 site plan implementing PJT2014-00003 to allow development of 400 multi-family units with about 20,000 square feet of retail. Case #STP2017-00321.
9. **220 E. Middle Lane (Rockville Metro Plaza):** Project plan application for a proposed mixed-use development of approximately 240 multi-family units and 8,500 square feet of retail. Case #PJT2018-00008.
10. **9701 Veirs Drive (The Village at Rockville):** Proposed new independent living building on the west side of the existing retirement community. Case #STP2017-00320.
11. **15825 Shady Grove Road (Shady Grove Neighborhood Center):** Project plan application for a proposed mixed-use development of townhomes, multi-family residential, retail, office, hotel and/or institutional uses, such as senior housing or nursing home. Case #PJT2017-00007.

12. **Redland Boulevard at Interstate 270:** Pre-application for a proposed self-storage facility. Case #PAM2016-00094.

Recently Approved Applications

The following applications were recently approved and are currently, or may soon be, under construction:

13. **255 N. Washington St. (Rockville Town Center, LLC):** Site plan application for a proposed mixed-use building with 275 dwelling units and approximately 6,000 square feet of street-level commercial. Approved Oct. 22, 2014. Case #STP2014-00214.
14. **285 N. Washington St. (Brightview Rockville Town Square):** Site plan application for a 195-unit rental community for independent senior living and assisted living with street-level retail. Approved July 23, 2014. Case #STP2014-00189.
15. **332 W. Edmonston Drive (Elementary School No. 5):** Mandatory referral submittal for construction of a new elementary school. Approved Nov. 3, 2015. Case #STP2016-00264.
16. **520-540 Gaither Road (Redland Corporate Center):** Level 2 site plan for a proposed three-phase improvement and addition to an existing office park. Approved Oct. 19, 2016. Case #PAM2015-00092.
17. **701 King Farm Blvd. (Ingleside at King Farm):** Level 2 site plan for an addition to the Continuing Care Retirement Community at Ingleside – King Farm. Approved Oct. 19, 2016. Case #PAM2016-00089.
18. **900/901 King Farm Blvd. (King Farm F6/F5):** Proposed developments of 53 and 76 residential townhouses, respectively. Approved Dec. 10, 2014. Case #STP2014-00217/STP2014-00216.
19. **1251 W. Montgomery Ave.:** Level 2 site plan for a proposed self-storage facility. Approved April 26, 2017. Case #STP2017-00300.
20. **1401 Research Blvd.:** Level 2 site plan proposing a retail center with office. Approved June 8, 2016. Case #STP2016-00276.
21. **1900 Chapman Ave.:** Major site plan amendment (STP2012-00112) to change from 339 multi-unit residential to 61 townhouse units. Approved March 23, 2016. Case #STP2015-00251.
22. **15931 Frederick Road:** site plan application for a 425-unit multi-family development. Approved March 9, 2016. Case #STP2016-00267.
23. **Preserve Parkway (Tower Oaks residential):** Level 2 site plan implementing project plan amendment PJT2016-00006 for up to 375 residential units to replace approximately 755,000 square feet of office development approved under the current planned development. Approved Oct. 11, 2017. Case #STP2017-00308.



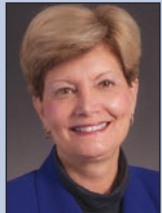
WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING THIS MONTH? Apart from the obvious, did you know December is National Egg Nog Month (makes sense), with National Eggnog Day on Dec. 24, and National Fruit Cake Month? It's also a month for pears, and, more seriously, impaired driving prevention. In December, you can also celebrate National Regifting Day (on the 21st), Eat a Red Apple Day (Dec. 1), National Cookie Day (Dec. 4), and National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (Dec. 7).

Mayor & Council

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Meetings: Monday, Dec. 4, 11 at 7 p.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter. Drop-in sessions are held monthly at 5:30 p.m. in the Mayor and Council office. No appointment necessary. Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton is joined by Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg on Dec. 11.

Get Involved with the City

Stay informed of the business before city leaders and share your thoughts:

- **Follow the action in person:** Meetings are at 7 p.m. on most Mondays, at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or follow from home on channel 11. Meetings are also available via live streaming, and on demand the day after the meeting, at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11.
- **Stop by a drop-in session:** The mayor and one councilmember meet with community members one Monday each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Find the drop-in schedule at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil.
- **Speak at Community Forum** (up to three minutes): Community Forum is held during each Mayor and Council meeting. Priority is given to speakers who have signed up in advance by calling 240-314-8280 by 4 p.m. on the day of the meeting, and to those who are speaking on an agenda item.
- **Send an email** to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov.

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Water and Sewer Rates Are Up Next for Budget Discussions Online Survey Continues to Offer Opportunity for Input

Following two public hearings on the Fiscal Year 2019 budget in the fall, the Mayor and Council are turning their attention in December to the city's water and sewer rates, while continuing to seek input online about the community's budget priorities.

City staff will give a presentation about Rockville's water and sewer rates during the Mayor and Council meeting on Monday, Dec. 11. A public hearing on Monday, Jan. 8 will give community members an opportunity to provide feedback about the rates. Learn how to testify in the right-hand column on this page. As part of the budget process, the Mayor and Council will set water and sewer rates for FY 2019, FY 2020 and FY 2021.

Upcoming Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Calendar

Dec. 11	Water and Sewer Rate Presentation
Jan. 8	Water and Sewer Rate Public Hearing
Feb. 26	Presentation of FY 2019 Proposed Budget
March 5	Mayor and Council Budget Work Session
March 19	Budget Public Hearing
April 9	Budget Public Hearing
April 13	Budget Public Record Closes
April 23	Mayor and Council Budget Work Session
May 14	Adoption of the FY 2019 Budget

Community members are invited to visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget to learn more about the budget process, and to use the city's online survey to identify priorities for the operating budget and Capital Improvements Program for FY 2019, which begins July 1.

Find video of the Oct. 16 and Nov. 13 public hearings and more information about the water and sewer rate presentation when it is posted at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

For more information, call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400. ✦

Mayor and Council Testimony Calls for School Renovations

Mayor and Council testimony presented during a Nov. 8 county school board hearing addressed priorities for all five school clusters serving City of Rockville students.

The Mayor and Council thanked county schools Superintendent Jack Smith for recommending that the under-construction Richard Montgomery Elementary School No. 5 be built to accommodate 740 students. This would ensure that the school does not exceed capacity soon after opening in fall 2018.

In testimony presented by councilmembers Beryl L. Feinberg and Virginia D. Onley on Smith's Fiscal Year 2019 capital budget and six-year Capital Improvements Program, the Mayor and Council

also:

- Advocated for short-term "maintenance renovations" at Twinbrook Elementary School and approval of a revitalization/expansion, or "rev/ex," for the Richard Montgomery cluster school as soon as is feasible.
- Supported recommendations for the Rockville cluster, including a Maryvale Elementary School rev/ex, to be completed in January 2020, that includes co-location of the Carl Sandburg Learning Center.
- Urged a Thomas S. Wootton High School rev/ex as soon as possible, citing community concerns about heating and cooling system issues, roof leaks and insufficient and unsafe parking.
- Backed the board's approval of

a committee to study whether a new elementary school, multiple building additions or a combination of the two are needed to relieve overcrowding in the Gaithersburg cluster, which serves part of the city's King Farm neighborhood.

- Supported Smith's recommendation to reopen the former Woodward High School in North Bethesda. The school would alleviate overcrowding in the Walter Johnson cluster, which serves students from the city's southern portion.

School officials attended a Mayor and Council work session on Oct. 30 to discuss school construction. Find video of the work session at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter. ✦

City Legislative Priorities: Aid for Schools, Seniors and Youth Maryland General Assembly's 90-Day Session Begins Jan. 10

Rockville's 2018 state legislative priorities include calls for more state aid for school construction and for youth and senior services, and funding for improvements at the Rockville Senior Center.

Under priorities approved by the Mayor and Council last month and presented to the Montgomery County Delegation on Nov. 13, the city will advocate for:

- **Increased school construction funding** from the state to address overcrowded and aging school facilities in Rockville and across the 162,000-student county school system. Read more on this page about the Mayor and Council's cooperation with Montgomery County Public Schools.

- **Enhanced senior programs** and services to address transportation and recreation needs, and assist with the establishment of senior villages and other programs to help seniors age in place.
- The preservation of funding that Rockville's Community Services Division uses to provide **services to at-risk youth**, including after-school, mentoring and counseling programs.
- A state bond bill to help fund a **Rockville Senior Center modernization project**. The project includes Americans with Disabilities Act-related improvements to the entrance and key parts of the facility.
- Permanent restoration of municipal **Highway User Revenue**

funding. The state provided one-time restorations in the aid, used for road maintenance and small infrastructure improvement projects, in each of the past five fiscal years.

- Authority for state and local governments to deny Maryland Public Information Act requests for resident email addresses and phone numbers.
- Protection of the authority of a municipality to assert local control over the siting and installation of small cellular antennas, or distributed antennae systems, and to impose a fee for permit review and rental of space in a municipal right of way.

The 2018 state legislative session runs from Jan. 10-April 9. For more details, contact Linda Moran at lmoran@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8115. ✦

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- **Testify at a hearing** or in writing to cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov or by mail to the City Clerk's Office, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer** to be on a board or commission. (Learn more below.) Find other ways to give your time and talents to your community at www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer.

Boards and Commissions

Anyone interested in serving on a board or commission may write to: Mayor and Council, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, call 240-314-8280, or fill out and submit an expression of interest form at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions. The webpage also includes schedules and cancellations, and contact information.

Note: Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted.

- **Dec. 6** Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee 7 p.m.
- **Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28** Development Review Committee 9 a.m.
- **Dec. 7** Environment Commission 7 p.m.
- **Dec. 2** Board of Appeals 9 a.m.*
- **Dec. 13** Cultural Arts Commission 7 p.m.
- **Dec. 13** Planning Commission 7 p.m.*
- **Dec. 20** Sign Review Board 9 a.m.
- **Dec. 20** Rockville Sister City Corporation 7 p.m.
- **Dec. 21** Historic District Commission 7 p.m.
- **Dec. 27** Rockville Housing Enterprises 6:30 p.m. David Scull Courts Community Center.

*Televised on Rockville 11.

Vacancies

The Mayor and Council are seeking applicants for the following boards and commissions:

- Board of Appeals (1 alt.)
- Board of Supervisors of Elections (1)
- Cultural Arts Commission (1)
- Historic District Commission (1 regular/1 alt.)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (1)
- Planning Commission (1)
- Recreation and Park Advisory Board (1)
- Senior Citizens Commission (1)
- Sign Review Board (1 alt.)



STAY INFORMED: The Mayor and Council meeting schedule and agendas can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil. Staff reports with background information are included with the agendas, which are posted several days before each meeting. Sign up at www.rockvillemd.gov/notifyme to receive an email or text message when a new agenda is posted.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CITY ON ROCKVILLE 11

www.youtube.com/cityofrockville

Green Giving and Electronics Recycling

Do you plan on giving new electronics as a gift for the holidays?

For products that help reduce environmental impacts and energy costs, look for Energy Star-qualified and Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool registered products.

Rockville collects and recycles electronics, such as cell phones, computers, televisions and holiday lights.

For more information on recycling and refuse service, holiday tree collection, or to make a bulk collection or electronics recycling collection appointment, call 240-314-8568. For more environmental tips throughout the year, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/environment.

Green Snow-Removal Tips

Follow these tips to keep your driveway and sidewalks ice-free, while minimizing the environmental impact:

✓ Shovel Early, Shovel Often

Removing fresh snow before it has a chance to harden into ice is the best way to keep your pavement clear. Deicers work best on thin layers of snow or ice that need to be melted, so shovel first, break up any ice patches you can and then add the deicer.

✓ Apply Salt Springly

Using more than the recommended amount of salt won't speed up melting. The recommended application rate for rock salt (sodium chloride) is one handful per square yard treated. Calcium chloride requires even less — one handful for every 3 square yards treated (or about the area of a twin bed).

✓ Buy Early and Check Labels

Buy your deicing product before the big storm, so you don't end up staring at empty shelves in the stores. Check the label before you buy — although slightly more expensive, calcium chloride (CaCl₂) requires less salt, works at lower temperatures and does not contain cyanide, unlike sodium chloride (NaCl, rock salt), which does. Urea is sometimes promoted as "lawn-friendly," as excess urea will act as a fertilizer. However, the application rate for urea is far greater than your lawn would require, and most of the excess urea will only end up "fertilizing" the stream.

✓ Avoid Kitty Litter and Ashes

While these products are environmentally friendly, they are only marginally effective at adding traction, and don't melt ice. If you need traction, mixing in a small amount of sand and using even less salt is a better option.

Tree Recycling Makes the Holidays Greener

The city collects holiday trees as part of its recycling collection and takes them to the Montgomery County Recycling Center, where they become mulch.

The mulch is available year-round for free, at the center, at 16105 Frederick Road, next to the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station.

Place trees at the curb for pickup on regular recycling and refuse collection days after removing all ornaments and metals, wires, stands and decorations, including tinsel. Trees should not be bagged. There is no deadline for curbside collection of trees.

Artificial trees cannot be recycled and should be placed in the gray refuse cart for regular weekly collection. Artificial trees that are too large to fit in the cart can be collected by appointment as one of six bulk collections allowed per year, or taken to the transfer station.

For bulk refuse information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/bulkrefuse.

Winter Is Just Around the Corner



Winterize to Prevent Frozen Pipes

Freezing temperatures can lead to frozen pipes or meters, leaving homes without running water. To prevent frozen pipes:

- When freezing weather is forecast, **turn off** inside valves that control the water supply to outside hose attachments (known as bibs). Open the outside hose bibs to allow any water in the line to drain out. Keep the valve open. Remove and drain garden hoses and drain in-ground irrigation systems.

- **Eliminate sources of cold air** near pipes. Close off crawl spaces, seal drafty windows and doors, and insulate walls

and attics.

- **Use insulation**, pipe sleeves or newspaper to wrap pipes that are exposed to cold air.
- During extended absences, set the thermostat to **at least 55 degrees**, or shut off the main water valve.
- In severe cold, **keep water moving** through pipes. Turn on the faucet farthest from your main valve to a very small, steady trickle.

If pipes freeze:

- **Shut off** the water immediately at the main shut-off valve.
- **Warm air around the pipes** using a hair dryer. Do not use a kerosene

heater, blow torch or open flame.

- Once pipes are thawed, **slowly turn water back on**. Check all joints for leaks and other areas for cracks that may have resulted from the freeze.

Property owners are responsible for calling a plumber to repair frozen and broken pipes on their property and inside their buildings. If you suspect your meter might be frozen and you pay water bills to the City of Rockville, call 240-314-8567 to schedule a service call. If the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission provides water for your property, call 301-206-4002. ❄️

MORE TIPS

- Find tips for safely shutting off water and other utilities in your home at www.ready.gov/utility-shut-safety.
- The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service provides tips for preventing frozen fire sprinkler pipes at <http://ht.ly/H4KSE>.
- Freezing water can cause rain barrels to crack or deform. When freezing temperatures are forecast, store barrels in a garage or shed, or disconnect the barrel and divert water to the ground using a downspout.
- Learn more at www.protectyourpipes.org/frozen-pipes/ and www.rockvillemd.gov/water.

Rockville Needs Volunteers to Shovel Snow for Seniors

City Pairs Volunteers with Senior Neighbors

Rockville is a city of neighborhoods with a tradition of looking out for one another, and never is that more true than when we're helping neighbors who may not be able to help themselves.

Each winter the Rockville Senior Center looks for ways to help older Rockville residents with snow removal. If you're handy with a shovel and don't mind digging out an extra driveway or clearing a walkway or two, you can sign up and volunteer for the program.

The senior center's home maintenance coordinator organizes the program and can connect you with

neighbors in need near your home. What better way to celebrate the season of selfless giving?

To sign up to volunteer or to request snow-shoveling assistance, call 240-314-8819, or call the Senior Center Support Services office at 240-314-8810. To sign up for assistance or volunteer online, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorsnowshoveling.

For more information about Rockville Senior Services, call 240-314-8800 or email seniorcenter@rockville.md.gov.

When winter weather strikes, turn to the city's website at www.rockville.md.gov/winterweather. Closure and snow emer-



gency information is available at www.rockvillemd.gov/weather, and through email notices, social media,

and by signing up for Alert Rockville notifications. Learn more at www.rockville.md.gov/connections. ❄️

Safety Tips for Your Real Holiday Tree

With the holiday season fast approaching, many Rockville residents will be buying real trees to decorate their homes. What those residents might not know is that holiday tree fires can be deadly.

If you're a "real tree" person, here are a few tips from Common Voices (fireadvocates.org) to keep you and your loved ones safe.

- If you get a live tree, make sure it's fresh.

Needles should be green and springy to the touch.

- Cut 1 to 2 inches off the bottom of the trunk before placing the tree in the stand. A fresh cut allows the tree to absorb water. Place the tree in water right away.
- Fill the tree stand with water every day.
- Make sure the tree is at least 3 feet away from any heat source, like floor vents, fireplaces, radiators, candles or lamps.
- Make sure your tree is

not blocking an exit.

- Always turn the tree lights off or unplug them before going to bed or leaving your home.
- Use lights that are approved by a national testing organization like UL.
- Replace lights that have worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Follow manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands you can safely connect. Make sure you are using the right lights for indoors or



outdoors.

- Remove your tree immediately after the holidays even if you think it is not dry.

For more information about keeping your home safe from fire, visit www.fireadvocates.org. ❄️



Rockville, Maryland

Month	Average Low	Average High	Average Precipitation	Average Snow
January	24°	40°	3.34"	7.1"
February	26°	43°	2.85"	4.6"
March	34°	53°	3.89"	2.8"
April	42°	64°	3.19"	0.1"
May	52°	73°	4.38"	0"
June	60°	81°	3.74"	0"
July	65°	85°	3.91"	0"
August	63°	83°	3.72"	0"
September	56°	77°	4.09"	0"
October	44°	66°	3.36"	0"
November	36°	55°	3.44"	1"
December	28°	44°	3.17"	3.1"

Source: Intellicast.com



'LEAVE' 2017 BEHIND... Rockville wraps up its second and final round of vacuuming fall leaves from street curbs this month. The final round of collection is underway. Learn if leaf collection is yet to come to your neighborhood and find tips for preparing leaves for collection at www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection.



WHAT WE'VE BEEN WATCHING ON YOUTUBE... Rockville 11 took us meter to meter with a city parking enforcement officer, introduced us to a Julius West Middle School program molding tomorrow's leaders, took us to a 10th anniversary celebration for Rockville Town Square, told us about a design award for the retail district's plaza and reminded us of the do's and don'ts of recycling, as "Rock 11 Now Weekly" delivered more city news, more often. You can watch too, at www.youtube.com/cityofrockville.

Be In-the-Know When It Snows

Quick Links, Facts and Phone Numbers

When winter weather strikes, turn to the city's website at www.rockvillemd.gov.

Closure and snow emergency information is available at www.rockvillemd.gov/weather, as well as through Facebook (www.facebook.com/cityofrockville) and Twitter (@rockville411), and by signing up for Alert Rockville notifications. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/connections.

City crews treat and plow roads in the following priority order:

1. Primary roads that consist of major arterial roads, emergency routes, central business districts and primary residential roads near schools.

2. Secondary roads that consist of the remainder of neighborhood streets, alleyways and cul-de-sacs. To check whether an address is within the city limits, find the Address and Residency map at www.rockvillemd.gov/maps.

Removing snow from sidewalks, driveways and entrances is the responsibility of the property and/or business owner or occupant unless a community association has assumed the responsibility. Snow and ice must be cleared from all paved sidewalks abutting a property as follows:

- Up to 3 inches: Clear within 24 hours.
- 3 to 9 inches: Clear within 48 hours.
- 10 inches or more: Clear within 72 hours.

If residents are able to do so, they should clear snow from around fire hydrants.

Seniors may request assistance with clearing snow from their property. Assistance is provided by volunteers and coordinated through the Rockville Senior Center. To volunteer or to request snow-shoveling assistance, call **240-314-8819** or the Senior Center Support Services office at **240-314-8810** or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorsnowshoveling.

For answers to frequently asked questions about snow removal, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/winterweather.

NUMBERS TO KNOW WHEN IT SNOWS

- Emergency **911**
- City Police (non-emergency) . . **240-314-8900**
- Report a Downed Tree . . . **240-314-8700**
- City Public Works **240-314-8500**
- City Hall **240-314-5000**
- Rec Programs Cancellation Line: **240-314-5023**

- Find Snow Removal Help for Seniors or Volunteer to Help. **240-314-8810**
- Montgomery Co. 24-Hour Crisis Center Hotline **240-777-4000**

(Anyone in Montgomery County who needs assistance to stay warm can visit the county Crisis Center at 1301 Piccard Drive.)

- Pepco Power Outage . . . **1-877-737-2662**

Reminder to Fido's Parents: Salt in Your Dog's Paws is Painful

When the salt/ice mixture used for deicing sidewalks rapidly cools it essentially burns and can create frostbite on your dog's paws. Also, rock salt tastes, well salty, when they lick at it. This can lead to stomach distress and dehydration.

If you're one of the city's dog walkers, avoiding all the rock salt can be near impossible. Keep a bowl of warm water just inside your door and wipe down your dog's paws on arrival home.

Have fun in the snow this winter with your dogs. There's almost no better way to spend a snow day. Just make certain to keep your dog clear of winter-weather paw perils.



Green Thumbed or Not, Rockville has Garden Plots

Check your thumb. Is it green? Perhaps you have a knack for gardening, but not the space, and are ready to move onto something a little more challenging than your window box.

The City of Rockville has 178 garden plots, measuring 20-by-25 feet, available for rent at Woottons Mill Park (on Hurley Avenue) where you can test your gardening chops.

The cost is \$55 for Rockville residents, \$80 for nonresidents. Registration for the garden plot program opens Jan. 2 and the season runs from April 1-Nov. 11.

The city provides six water spigots throughout the garden area; gardeners are responsible for fencing, weed barriers, hoses, tools and other gardening supplies.

Registration forms will be posted at www.rockvillemd.gov/gardenplots in January. Call Rockville Civic Center's main office number, 240-314-8660, for more information.



Keep Your Kids Busy During Winter Break

Are your kids looking for something to do over the winter break? Take them somewhere warm, safe and active during the day. Register for winter break programs using the course numbers below at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration.

Winter Blast: Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Road, Grades K-5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

- Wednesday, Dec. 27, course #2076.
- Thursday, Dec. 28, course #2077.
- Friday, Dec. 29, course #2078.

Escape the cold this winter and join the fun indoors! Each day's activities include sports, crafts and organized games. Wear comfortable clothing and athletic shoes. Bring a bag lunch. \$35 for residents, \$40 nonresidents per day.

Winter Wonderland Fun Days: Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway; Ages: 5-12; 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

- Wednesday, Dec. 27, course #1276.
- Thursday, Dec. 28, course #1277.
- Friday, Dec. 29, course #1278.

Play with your friends, make crafts, play organized games and sports, and other fun activities! Wear comfortable clothing and athletic shoes. Bring a bag lunch. \$35 for residents, \$40 nonresidents per day.



Song and Dance to Celebrate the Holidays at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre

December presents a whole host of performances at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre from traditional to classic!

Rockville Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker"

- Saturdays, Dec. 2 and 9 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, Dec. 3 and 10 at 2 p.m.
- Directed by Eleanor Simpson. Join Clara on her magical journey!
- Tickets: \$17; \$13 for seniors 60 and older and children 12 and younger.

Rockville Concert Band presents "Tis the Season!"

- Sunday, Dec. 17 at 3 p.m.
- Warm up to seasonal favorites conducted by Associate Music Director Douglas Pierce.

- No tickets required; \$5 suggested donation. Visit www.facebook.com/RockvilleConcertBand.

Rockville Chorus presents 45th Anniversary Holiday Concert

- Sunday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m.
- Directed by Bryan Seith. Featuring songs that ring in the holiday season, this annual tradition has become one of the most highly anticipated events of the year. Join the chorus in the lobby after the show for refreshments.
- No tickets required; donations greatly appreciated. Visit www.rockvillechorus.com.

The theater is located at 603 Edmonston Drive. Buy tickets online at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre, by phone at 240-314-8690 or in person at the box office. ❖

Community Organizations Invited to Apply for Grants

The City of Rockville provides grants annually to local organizations that partner with the city to enhance quality of life of Rockville residents.

Nonprofits supporting the advancement of education and community engagement are welcome to apply. Applications are being accepted now for Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019).

To be eligible for a grant, organizations must provide services to Rockville residents and complete an online application.

Applicants will have the opportunity to speak in support of their grant request at a public hearing for the FY 2019 budget in spring 2018. Final decisions will be made by the Mayor and Council on the FY 2019 budget in May 2018.

Applications are due by 5 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 20. For more information contact Management Assistant Louise Atkins at 240-314-8106 or by email at latkins@rockvillemd.gov. Find an online application at www.rockvillemd.gov/communityorggrant. ❖

Fun for the Family at Glenview Mansion's Free Open Houses

Art Opening, Decorations, Live Music and a Visit from Santa

Glenview Mansion will celebrate the season with music, gifts, art and a chance to give back at its annual Holiday Open Houses. The free open houses are held 1-4 p.m. on three Sundays in December:

Art Gallery Opening and Reception

Sunday, Dec. 3, 1-4 p.m.

Shop the holiday gift shop, meet local artists and find a unique one-of-a-kind gift.

- 1-4 p.m. Art gallery exhibition opening and reception for the Rockville Art League's Annual Juried Members' Show, featuring works in various media. (For gallery hours, see www.rockvillemd.gov/glenviewgallery.)
- 1:15 p.m. Rockville Singers.
- 2:15 p.m. Victorian Lyric Opera Company.
- 3:15 p.m. Capital Accord Chorus.

Children's Day with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Sunday, Dec. 10, 1-4 p.m.

Enjoy a day with Santa and Mrs. Claus and take



part in fun crafts and activities.

- 1-4 p.m. Art gallery open.
- 1:15 p.m. The Heavenly Handbells of Trinity Lutheran Church.
- 2:15 p.m. Heart of Maryland Chorus.
- 3:15 p.m. Watkins Mill High School Chamber Singers.

Music and Merriment

Sunday, Dec. 17, 1-4 p.m.

- 1-4 p.m. Art gallery open.
- 1:15 p.m. The School of Music.
- 2:15 p.m. The Encore Singers.
- 3:15 p.m. Harmony Express.

Learn more about the mansion at www.rockvillemd.gov/glenview or call 240-314-8660. ❖

Peerless Honors Preservation, Restoration and Education

Annual Awards Celebrate Rockville's Heritage

The 38th annual Peerless Rockville awards ceremony, held Nov. 3 at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, recognized efforts to preserve Rockville's historic and architectural character. This year's winners were:

- Monsignor Robert Amey, Scott and Kammie Bell, and Kevin Daly, for preservation at St. Mary's Catholic Church.
- Steve Edwards and Jill Timmons, of Adamswood LLC, for landscaping and stewardship of the Darby House, at 109 N. Adams St.
- William and Michele Egan, owners, and John L. duFief, Inc., builder, for new construction at 210 Forest Ave.
- Carloyn Oakford, Diana Locke, Gregory Lin, Janice Musselman and Ann English, for landscaping at

Christ Episcopal Church.

- The executive board of the Americana Centre Homeowners Association, for preservation advocacy for Americana Centre.
- Rockville Sister City Corporation, in recognition of their 60th anniversary.
- Rockville Little Theatre, in recognition of their 70th anniversary.

Peerless also recognized Nina Clarke for her 100th birthday and her lifetime of contributions in history and education.

Peerless Rockville is an award-winning, community-based nonprofit founded in 1974 to preserve buildings, objects and information important to Rockville's heritage.

Learn more at www.peerlessrockville.org, or call 301-762-0096. ❖

Connect with us on Social Media.



HOLIDAY SHOPPING? SAVE MONEY WHILE SUPPORTING YOUR COMMUNITY... Visit www.rockvillerewards.com to buy a Rockville Rewards card and get discounts at 140 Rockville-area businesses. All proceeds support one of 25 participating local nonprofits.

December CALENDAR

CC Croydon Creek Nature Ctr., 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
GM Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
FSF F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.

LP Lincoln Park Community Ctr., 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780.
CH Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
SR Rockville Senior Ctr., 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.

FACILITIES LEGEND:

SFC Rockville Swim and Fitness Ctr., 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
TF Thomas Farm Community Ctr., 700 Falls Grove Dr., 240-314-8840.
TC Twinbrook Comm. Rec. Ctr., 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.



2 HOLIDAY BAZAAR. Shop hand crafts, books and baked goods, take part in a raffle and more. Sponsored by Rockville Seniors, Inc. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

2,3,9,10 ROCKVILLE CIVIC BALLET PRESENTS "THE NUTCRACKER." See article on page 6. 2 p.m. each day, with evening shows at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 2 and 9. **FSF**

3 NATURAL HOLIDAY CRAFTS. Use a variety of natural or recycled objects to make holiday crafts and ornaments. Each participant will complete at least three projects. Adult participation required for children under 8. Spaces are limited. Advanced registration recommended. For ages 6-12. Register for course #2087. \$10 R/\$13 NR. 2-3:30 p.m. **CC**

3 GLENVIEW MANSION HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE. Art Gallery opening and reception. Shop our holiday gift shop, meet six local artists and find the unique one-of-a-kind gift. Performances at 1:15 p.m. by Rockville Singers, at 2:15 p.m. by Victorian Lyric Opera Company and at 3:15 p.m. by Capital Accord Chorus. FREE. 1-4 p.m. **GM**

4 BOOKS THAT CHANGED AMERICA: HOLIDAY BOOKS FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US. A look at the authors and their motivation for three memorable works: "The Night Before Christmas," by Clement Moore; "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," by Dr. Seuss; and "The Polar Express," by Chris van Allsburg. Register for course #1441. \$6 MEM/\$9 R/\$12 NM. 10:15-11:15 a.m. **SR**

5 STONESTREET CORRIDOR STUDY COMMUNITY MEETING. Join the city's Community Planning and Development Services staff to discuss and provide input on potential redevelopment opportunities on the corridor. 7 p.m. **LP**

9 HOLIDAY GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP. Build your own gingerbread houses for the holidays. Learn the tricks of the trade and get creative. Fee includes a gingerbread house and all the decorating supplies. Working conditions include cookies and drinks. Ages 5 and up. Register for course #1044. \$50 R/\$55 NR. 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. **TF**

10 GLENVIEW MANSION HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE. Children's Day with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Enjoy a day with Santa and Mrs. Claus and participate in fun crafts and activities. Glenview Mansion and Art Gallery will be open. Performances at 1:15 p.m. by The Heavenly Handbells of Trinity Lutheran Church, at 2:15 p.m. by Heart of Maryland Chorus and at 3:15 p.m. by the Watkins Mill High School Chamber Singers. FREE. 1-4 p.m. **GM**

14 GLENVIEW MANSION & PEERLESS ROCKVILLE SPEAKER SERIES PRESENTS ROCKVILLE: PORTRAIT OF A CITY. Rockville historian Eileen McGuckian presents an illustrated journey through time to show how Rockville evolved from a crossroads village to today's vibrant city, a center of commerce and our hometown. McGuckian, who has studied Rockville history and historic places for 40 years and is a charter member and director emerita of Peerless Rockville, will be available to sign

copies of her book, "Rockville: Portrait of a City." FREE. 7-8:30 p.m. **GM**

16 NATURE TOTS: NATURE SENSES. Discover the wonders of nature with your child as a naturalist helps you delve into a nature topic through play, crafts, stories and hikes. Time spent outdoors, weather permitting. Adult participation required. Spaces are limited. Advanced registration recommended. For ages 2-5. Register for course #1046. \$8 R/\$10 NR. 10-11:30 a.m. **CC**

16 COOKIES WITH SANTA. Visit and take photos with Santa (bring a camera) and enjoy holiday crafts, cookie decorating, writing letters to Santa and more. Children must be accompanied by an adult. \$4 R/\$5 NR. Children under 2 free. Ages 1 and up. 2-4 p.m. **TF**

16-17 WINTER LIFEGUARD TRAINING REVIEW CLASS. See article on page 8. Register for course #2059. \$125. Saturday: 3-10:30 p.m.; Sunday: 5-9 p.m. **FSF**

17 GLENVIEW MANSION HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE. Music and Merriment. Glenview Mansion and Art Gallery will be open. Performances at 1:15 p.m. by The School of Music, at 2:15 p.m. by The Encore Singers and at 3:15 p.m. by Harmony Express. FREE. 1-4 p.m. **GM**

17 ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS "TIS THE SEASON." See article on page 6. FREE. \$5 suggested donation. 3 p.m. **FSF**

17 ROCKVILLE CHORUS PRESENTS ITS 45th ANNUAL HOLIDAY CONCERT. See article on page 6. FREE. \$5 suggested donation. 7:30 p.m. **FSF**

26 WINTER BREAK LIFEGUARD TRAINING CLASS BEGINS. This American Red Cross Lifeguard Training course will certify students in lifeguard training, CPR/AED for the professional rescuer and first aid. Space is very limited. Students must attend all class sessions. See article on page 8. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter. Register for course #2063. \$195. 2-9 p.m. **FSF**

27-29 WINTER BLAST. Kids grades K-5 can escape the cold during winter break and join the fun indoors! Each day's activities include sports, crafts and organized games. Wear comfortable clothing and athletic shoes. Bring a bag lunch. Register for course #2076 (Dec. 27), #2077 (Dec. 28), #2078 (Dec. 29). \$35 R/\$40 NR per day. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. **TF**

27-29 WINTER WONDERLAND FUN DAYS. Kids grades K-5 can escape the cold during winter break by joining the fun indoors! Activities include sports, crafts and organized games each day. Wear comfortable clothing and athletic shoes. Bring a bag lunch. Register for course #1276 (Dec. 27), #1277 (Dec. 28), #1278 (Dec. 29). \$35 R/\$40 NR per day. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. **TC**

Find the current recreation guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide. Sign up and search for courses, programs, classes and more at www.rockvillemd.gov/register. Enter the course number listed on the calendar entry to see more details and to register.

R = Residents • NR = Nonresidents • MEM = Member • NM = Nonmember

FOR MORE INFO AND UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTINGS: WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV/CALENDAR.ASPX

Rockville's Year in Review

continued from pg. 1...



celebrated in Rockville Town Center with Rocktoberfest, which marked the 60th anniversary of the city's sister city rela-



tionship with Pinneberg, Germany.

In **October**, for the first time, Rockville scored a perfect 100 for its commitment to the health, welfare, safety and equality of its lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community, on the Human

Rights Campaign's 2017 Municipal Equality Index scorecard. Town Square Plaza celebrated its 10th anniversary and won an award for design excellence from the Montgomery County Planning Department.

In **November**, Rockville's Community Planning and Development Services department and city manager were all ears at a listening session on what does and doesn't work in Rockville's development review process. The Mayor and Council this month also hosted Montgomery County Public Schools officials to hear about several education initiatives, including an update on Richard Montgomery Elementary School No. 5, which is scheduled to open in August. Rockville also



kicked off its 2017 Holiday Drive.

Find full coverage of many of these stories on RockvilleReports.com and youtube.com/cityofrockville.

Read about December's events in this edition of "Rockville Reports." ❖

Celebrate Lunar New Year on Feb. 24

Celebrate Rockville's Asian cultures with performances, games, crafts and cultural displays at the city's Lunar New Year celebration.

The annual celebration will be held from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at Richard Montgomery High School, 250 Richard Montgomery Drive. Multicultural performances will be from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The city is organizing the celebration in partnership with Rockville's Asian Pacific American Task Force.

In its 10th year, the Lunar New Year celebration is a source of pride for the city's Asian community and an educational opportunity for neighbors to learn about Asian culture. The celebration will mark the year 4716, the Year of the Dog on the Chinese Zodiac calendar. Find additional details, as they become available, at www.rockvillemd.gov/lunarnewyear.

Winter and Senior Recreation Guides to Come Out This Month

Look for Rockville's latest 2017-2018 winter guide, "LIFE in Rockville," which lists all the programs, events, classes and fun available from the city's Recreation and Parks Department.

Whether it's preschool programs, sports, arts, dance or getting fit, Rockville has something for you and your kids to take part in.

The guide will be available in print and online by Tuesday, Nov. 28. General registration for programs begins Thursday, Nov. 30.

Also look for "60+, Recreation and Services," Rockville's guide for classes, programs and events from the Rockville Senior Center.

Find the current recreation guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide.

Learn Lifeguarding

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center will once again hold American Red Cross Lifeguard Training and recertification courses.

Students must be 15 years old by the last day of the course. Space is limited for the sessions.

The lifeguard training course will be held from 2-9 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 26-Saturday, Dec. 30 (the class will be held from 5-9 p.m. on Dec. 30). Lifeguard recertification will be held 3-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16 and 5-9:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17; or from 3-10:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 6 and 5-9:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 7.

Earning a Lifeguard Training Certification is a great way to prepare for a summer job and obtain important lifesaving skills. Register at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration with course #2063 for lifeguard training, and either #2059 or #2060 for recertification. For more information on the courses, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/20558.

Holiday Closures

continued from pg. 1...

- The Rockville Senior Center, including the Fitness Room, is closed Sundays and will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.
- The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center will be open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 24 and 31 and closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter for lap and program schedules.

Parking at city-owned meters will be free on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

For more information, call 240-314-5000 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov.



Questions, Concerns or Ideas?

Reach out to Rockville City Manager Rob DiSpirito at rdspirito@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8102.

Maryland Women's Business Center Year in Review

The Maryland Women's Business Center, a program of Rockville Economic Development, Inc., helps people in our community start and grow women-owned businesses positioned for long-term growth.

During MWBC's most-recent fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30, the nonprofit's accomplishments included assisting with:

- 502 clients receiving business counseling.
- 58 business starts.
- 123 jobs created.

- 53 jobs retained.
- \$1.9 million in sales growth.
- \$874,370 in capital infusion.
- Developing new strategic partnerships.

MWBC conducts training, offers technical assistance and provides resources for women-owned enterprises. The center holds workshops at the offices MWBC shares with REDI, at 51 Monroe St., Plaza Level East, Suite 20. Learn more at www.marylandwbc.org.



Rockville's Camps Will Keep Your Kids' Minds and Bodies Thriving Through Summer

It's never too early to start thinking about what to do with your kids over a summer break — and Rockville's camp program has you covered, whether you live in Rockville or work here!

Summer Blast, Rockville's affordable, flexible all-day camp returns to four locations with swimming, field trips, arts, crafts, games and special events. Register by the week or for the whole summer. Summer Blast provides full-day care, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. June 18-Aug. 24.

Other opportunities will include: Tiny Chefs Cooking camp, which will have additional weeks due to its popularity in 2016; educational and

entertaining Mad Science; the Lego Invention camp, which, along with RC Racing Academy and Robotics, inspires design and innovation; and, for creative or theatrical campers, Hip Hop,

Dramatic Kids, Abakadoodle and Way Off Broadway.

The Summer Camps Guide 2018 is in the

works and will be available online and in print at city facilities and Rockville libraries on Jan. 12. For an early preview, drop by the city's booth at the 2018 Montgomery County Camp and Summer Fun Expo, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28 at the Hilton Hotel Meeting Center, 1750 Rockville Pike.

SAVE THE DATE

Camp registration begins **Tuesday, Jan. 16**. Camps begin the week of **June 18**. See www.rockvillemd.gov/camps for more details, when available.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CITY ON ROCKVILLE II
www.youtube.com/cityofrockville



LEADERS OF TODAY MEET LEADERS OF TOMORROW... *Julius West Middle School students from the Jaguar Scholars Leadership Program – a group of high-achieving Latino and African-American youth, met with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, City Manager Rob DiSpirito and County Councilmember Sidney Katz on Oct. 30 at City Hall. Find video of the visit in a "Rock 11 Now Weekly" report at www.youtube.com/cityofrockville. Search "Jaguar Scholars."*



Get Into It

Mayor
BRIDGET DONNELL NEWTON
Councilmembers
BERYL L. FEINBERG
VIRGINIA D. ONLEY
JULIE PALAKOVICH CARR
MARK PIERZCHALA

City Manager: Rob DiSpirito
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BACK IN THE DAY... "Season's Greetings," the front of the City of Rockville's newsletter proclaimed on Dec. 12, 1979. A "Burning of the Green" ceremony was planned Jan. 4 at Red Gate Industrial Park for Christmas trees collected after the holiday season. The program included "seasonal choral and recorded instrumental music," and the Mayor and Council were set to light the traditional fire.